

CHAPTER 28

BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS

2801. Discussion

The principal bloodborne pathogens of concern in this chapter are human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), hepatitis B virus (HBV), and hepatitis C virus (HCV). Many others exist, but generally are not occupationally transmitted in significant numbers. Due to the rapid spread of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), and its precursor HIV, and to counter HBV, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) generated the bloodborne pathogens standard to protect people from occupational exposures to all bloodborne pathogens. The diseases associated with these pathogens are preventable when the appropriate precautions are taken. The objective of this chapter is to protect Navy personnel by providing the guidance necessary to understand and implement the requirements of the bloodborne pathogens standard.

2802. Applicability

This chapter applies to all facilities in which workers have occupational exposure to potential bloodborne pathogens. Hospitals, medical treatment facilities, emergency rescue personnel, enforcement personnel, laboratories working with potential bloodborne pathogens, and all other personnel who can reasonably anticipate to have occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens shall meet the requirements of reference 28-1.

2803. Exposure Determination

The requirement for first aid and cardio pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training alone does not dictate the need to include individuals into programs designed to meet the bloodborne pathogens standard's requirements. Personnel who perform "Good Samaritan" acts that result in potential exposure shall receive the same prompt medical evaluations and follow-up that covered employees receive. Facilities shall follow reference 28-1 for exposure determination procedures.

2804. Hazard Prevention and Control

Facilities shall conduct hazard prevention and control procedures per references 28-1 and 28-2.

2805. Responsibilities

a. Echelon Two and other Headquarters Commanders shall provide guidance and assistance to subordinate commands to ensure the effectiveness of this program, including assistance in determining the job classifications of covered employees.

b. The Chief of Naval Education and Training (CNET) shall provide bloodborne pathogen training, and training materials meeting the requirements of reference 28-1 through the Naval Occupational Safety and Health and Environmental Training Center (NAVOSHENVTRACEN). Development of training and training material shall be coordinated with the Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED).

c. BUMED shall:

(1) Review and provide technical and administrative guidance on the medical aspects of the bloodborne pathogens program.

(2) Provide guidance for the review of medical records for bloodborne pathogen information and trends.

(3) Review CNET training material, (e.g., videos, interactive computer software, courses), for consistency with requirements of this chapter.

Chapter 28

References

28-1. Title 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1910.1030 of 6 December 91, Bloodborne Pathogens (NOTAL)

28-2. BUMEDINST 6230.15, Immunization and Chemoprophylaxis, (NOTAL)